

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1: (Currently Amended) A process for preparing trichlorosilane (HSiCl_3) by catalytic hydrodehalogenation of silicon tetrachloride (SiCl_4) in the presence of hydrogen and a supported catalyst, in which at least one metal or metal salt selected from among the elements of main group 2 of the Periodic Table of the Elements is used as catalyst at a temperature in the range from 300 to 1000°C,

wherein said supported catalyst comprises at least one metal or metal salt selected from the group consisting of calcium, strontium, barium, calcium chloride, strontium chloride, and barium chloride, and

wherein said at least one metal or metal salt has been applied to a support selected from the group consisting of leached glass, fused silica, a porous siliceous support and a SiO_2 support.

Claims 2 - 4: (Canceled)

Claim 5: (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1,

wherein

the supported catalyst used has a catalyst content, calculated as element, of from 0.1 to 10% by weight.

Claim 6: (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1,

wherein

an SiCl_4/H_2 mixture having a molar ratio of from 1:0.9 to 1:20 is brought into contact with the catalyst.

Claim 7: (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1,
wherein
the reaction is carried out in a fixed-bed reactor, in a fluidized-bed reactor or in a
moving-bed reactor.

Claim 8: (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1,
wherein
the catalytic reaction is carried out at a temperature in the range from 600 to 950°C
and a pressure of from 0.1 to 100 bar abs.

Claim 9: (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1,
wherein
the reaction is carried out at a space velocity of from 2000 to 30000 h⁻¹ and the gas
stream has a linear velocity of from 0.01 to 10 m/s in the reactor.

Claim 10: (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 1,
wherein
HSiCl₃ is isolated from the product mixture or the product mixture is used further
directly.